

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

It is time to stop the political hate mongering in the name of news or whatever they are calling it today. The idea that Sinclair is going to allow the Republicans to air a slanderous, unsubstantiated piece about John Kerry is outrageous. The fact that they have ordered all of their outlets to air it is even worse. I am a taxpayer. I own the airwaves. It is time for the FCC to take a stand on this and end it, on both sides. My husband and I are registered Republicans.